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THE DECLARATION
OF HIS HIGHNES
WILLIAM HENRY,
By the Grace of God
PRINCE OF ORANGE, &c.

Of the Reasons inducing him to appear in Armes in the Kingdome of England, for Preserving of the Protestant Religion, and for Restoring the Lawes and Liberties of ENGLAND, SCOTLAND and IRELAND.

Here unto are added the Letters of the aforesaid his Illustrious Highnesse to the Sea and Land forces of England, together with the Prayer for the present Expedition.

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With Privilege of the Great and Mighty the States of Holland and Westfriesland.

THE DECLARATION

OF HIS HIGHNESS

WILLIAM HENRY,

By the Grace of God

PRINCE OF ORANGE, &c.

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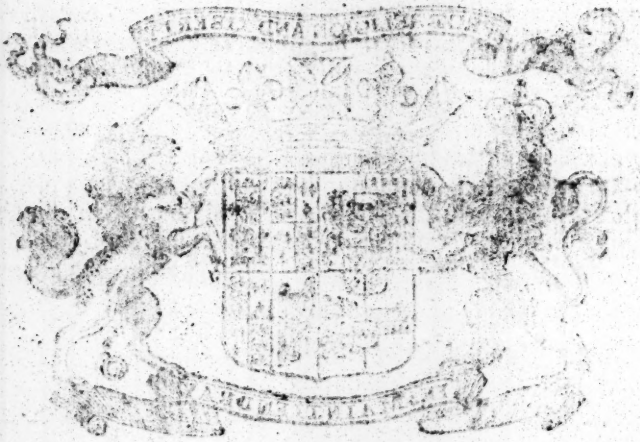
BRITAN
NICVM



THE DECLARATION

OF HIS HIGHNES

WILLIAM HENRY,

By the Grace of God PRINCE OF ORANGE, &c.

Of the reasons inducing him, To Appear in Armes in the Kingdome of England.

IT is both certain and evident to all men, that the publike Peace and Happines of any State or Kingdome, can not be preserved, where the Lawes, Liberties and Customes established by the lawfull authority in it, are openly transgressed and annulled: more especially where the alteration of *Religion* is endeavoured, and that a *Religion* which is contrary to Law is endeavoured to be introduced: upon which those who are most immediatly concerned in it, are indispensably bound to endeavour to preserve and maintain the established Lawes, Liberties and Customes: and above all the *Religion* and worship of God, that is established among them; and to take such an effectuall care, that the Inhabitants of the said State or Kingdome, may neither be deprived of their *Religion* nor of their Civill Rights. VVhich is so much the more necessary because the Greatnes and Security both of Kings Royall families, and of all such as are in Authority, as well as the happines of their Subjects and People, depend in a most especiall manner upon the exact observation and maintenance of these their Lawes, Liberties and Customes.

Upon these grounds it is, that Wee cannot any longer forbear to Declare that to our great regret Wee see that those Councellours, who have now the chiefe credit with the King, have overturned the *Religion*, Lawes and Liberties of those Realmes, and subjected them in all things relating to their Consciences, Liberties and Properties, to Arbitrary Government: and that not only by secret and indirect waies, but in an open and undisguised manner.

Those Evill Councellours for the advancing and colouring this with some plausible pretexts, did invent and set on foot the Kings *Dispencing power*, by vertue of which, they pretend that according to *Law*, he can *Suspend* and *Dispence* with the Execution of the *Lawes*, that have been enacted by the Authority, of the King and Parliament, for the security and happines of the Subject, and so have rendered

thoſe Lawes of no effect: Tho there is nothing more certain, then that as no Lawes can be made, but by the joint concurrence of King and Parliament, ſo likewiſe lawes ſo enacted, which ſecure the Publike peace, and ſafety of the Nation, and the lives and liberties of every ſubject in it, can not be repealed or ſuſpended but by the ſame authority.

For tho the King may pardon the punishment, that a Tranſgreſſour has incurred, and to which he is condemned, as in the caſes of *Treaſon* or *Felony*; yet it can not be with any colour of reaſon inferred from thence, that the King can entirely ſuſpend the execution of thoſe Lawes, relating to *Treaſon* or *Felony*: unleſſe it is pretended, that he is clothed with a Deſpotick and Arbitrary power, and that the Lives, Liberties, Honours and Eſtates of the Subjects, depend wholly on his good will and pleaſure, and are entirely ſubject to him; which muſt infallibly follow on the Kings having a power to *ſuſpend* the execution of the *Lawes*, and to diſpence with them.

Thoſe Evill Councellours, in order to the giving ſome credit to this ſtrange and execrable Maxime, have ſo conducted the matter, that they have obtained a Sentence from the Judges, declaring that this *Diſpencing power* is a Right belonging to the *Crown*; as if it were in the power of the twelve Judges to offer up the Lawes, Rights and Liberties, of the whole Nation, to the King, to be diſpoſed of by him Arbitrarily and at his Pleaſure and expreſſly contrary to Lawes enacted for the ſecurity of the Subjects. In order to the obtaining this Judgment, thoſe Evill Councellours did before hand examine ſecretly the Opinion of the Judges, and procured ſuch of them, as could not in Conſcience concurre in ſo pernicious a Sentence, to be turned out, and others to be ſubſtituted in their rooms till by the changes which were made, in the Courts of Judicature, they at laſt obtained that Judgment. And they have raiſed ſome to thoſe Truſts, who make open profeſſion of the Popish Religion, tho thoſe are by Law rendred incapable all ſuch Employments.

It is alſo manifeſt and notorious, that as his Majeſtie was, upon his coming to the Crown, received and acknowledged by all the ſubjects of *England*, *Scotland* and *Ireland*, as their *King* without the leaſt oppoſition, tho he made then open profeſſion of the *Popish Religion* ſo he did then promiſe, and ſolemnly ſwear at his Coronation, that he would maintain his ſubjects, in the free enjoyment of their Lawes, Rights and Liberties, and in particular, that he would maintain the *Church of England as it was eſtabliſhed by Law*: It is likewiſe certain, that there have been at diverſe and ſundry times, ſeverall Lawes enacted for the preſervation of thoſe Rights and Liberties, and of the Proteſtant Religion: and among other Securities, it has been enacted that all Perſons whatſoever, that are advanced to any Eccleſiaſticall Dignity, or to bear Office in either Univerſity, as likewiſe all other that ſhould be put in any Imployment, Civill or Military, ſhould declare that they were not Papiſts, but were of the Proteſtant Religion, and that by their taking of the Oaths of *Allegange* and *Supreamacy* and the *Teſt*, yet theſe Evill Councellours have in effect annulled and abolished all thoſe Lawes, both with relation to Eccleſiaſticall and Civill Employments.

In order to Eccleſiaſticall Dignities and Offices they have not only without any colour of Law, but againſt moſt expreſſe Lawes to the contrary, ſet up a Commiſſion of a certain number of perſons, to whom they have committed the cogniſance and direction of all Eccleſiaſticall matters: in the which Commiſſion there has been and ſtill is, one of His Majeſties Miniſters of State, who makes now publike profeſſion of the Popish Religion, and who at the time of his firſt profeſſing it, declared

declared that for a great while before, he had beleeved that to be the only true Religion. By all this, the deplorable State to which the Proteſtant Religion is reduced is apparent, ſince the Affairs of the Church of England, are now put into the hands of Perſons, who have accepted of a Commiſſion that is manifeſtly Illegal; and who have executed it contrary to all Law; and that now one of their chiefe Members has abjured the *Proteſtant Religion* and declared himſelfe a *Papiſt*; by which he is become Incapable of holding any Publike Imployment: The ſaid Commiſſioners have hitherto given ſuch proof, of their ſubmiſſion to the directions given them, that there is no reaſon to doubt, but they will ſtill continue to promote all ſuch deſigns as will be moſt aggreable to them. And thoſe Evill Councellours take care ta raiſe none to any Eccleſiaſticall dignities, but perſons that have no zeal for the *Proteſtant Religion*, and that now hide their un concernednes for it, under the ſpecious pretence of *Moderation*. The ſaid Commiſſioners have ſuſpended the Bishop of *London*, only becauſe he refuſed to obey an order, that was ſent him to ſuſpend a Worthy Divine, without ſo much as citing him before him, to make his own Defence, or obſerving the common formes of proceſſe. They have turned out a Preſident, choſen by the fellows of *Magdalen Colledge*, and afterwards all the Fellows of that Colledge, without ſo much as citing them before any Court that could take legall cogniſſance of that affair; or obtaining any Sentence againſt them by a Competent Judge. And the only reaſon that was given for turning them out, was their refuſing to chooſe for their Preſident; a Perſon that was recommended to them, by the Inſtigation of thoſe Evill Councellours; tho the right of a free Election belonged undoubredly to them. But they were turned out of their freeholds, contrary to Law, and to that expreſſe proviſion in the *Magna Charta*; *that no man ſhall looſe life or goods, but by the Law of the land.* And now theſe Evill Councellours have put the ſaid Colledge wholly into the hands of Popiſts, th o as is aboveſaid, they are incapable of all ſuch Employments, both by the Law of the Land, and the ſtatutes of the Colledge. Theſe Commiſſioners have alſo cited before them all the Chancellours and Archdeacons of England, requiring them to certifie to them the names of all ſuch Clergymen, as have read the Kings declaration for *Liberty of Conſcience*, and of ſuch as have not read it: without conſidering that the reading of it was not enjoined the Clergy, by the Bishops, who are their Ordinaries. The Illegality and Incompetency of the ſaid Court of the Eccleſiaſticall Commiſſioners was ſo notoriouſly known, and it did ſo evidently appear that it tended to the ſubverſion of the *Proteſtant Religion*, that the Moſt Reverend Father in God, *William* Archbishop of *Canterbury* Primate and Metropolitan of all *England*, ſeeing that it was raiſed for no other end but to oppreſſe ſuch perſons as were of eminent vertue, learning and piety, refuſed to ſit or to concurre in it.

And tho there are many expreſſe Lawes againſt all Churches or Chappells, for the exerciſe of the Popish Religion, and alſo againſt all Monaſteries and Convents, and more particularly againſt the order of the *Jeſuites*, yet thoſe Evill Councellours have procured orders for the building of ſeverall Churches and Chappels, for the exerciſe of that Religion: They have alſo procured diverſe Monaſteries to be erected, and in contempt of the Law they have not only ſet up ſeverall Colledges of *Jeſuites*, in diverſe places, for the corrupting of the youth, but have raiſed up one of the *Order*, to be a Privy Councellour and a Miniſter of State. By all which they doe evidently ſhew, that they are reſtrained by no rules or Law whatſoever; but that they have ſubjected the Honours and Eſtates of the ſubjects, and the eſta-

blisht Religion to a Deſpotick power and to Arbitrary Government: In all which they are ſerved and ſeconded by thoſe Eccleſiaſtical Commiſſioners.

They have alſo followed the ſame methods with Relation to Civill affairs: For they have procured orders to examine all Lords Lieutenants, Deputy Lieutenants, Sheriffs, Juſtices of Peace and all others that were in any Publike Imployment, if they would concurre with The King in the repeal of the *Teſt* and *Penal Lawes*: and all ſuch, whoſe conſciences did not ſuffer them to comply with their deſignes, were turned out; and others were put in their places, who they beleeved would be more compliant to them in their deſignes of defeating the intent and Execution of thoſe Lawes, which had been made with ſo much care and caution for the ſecurity of the *Proteſtant Religion*. And in many of theſe places they have put profeſſed Papiſts, tho the Law has diſabled them, and warranted the ſubjects not to have any regard to their Orders.

They have alſo invaded the Priviledges, and ſeiſed on the Charters of moſt of thoſe Towns that have a right to be repreſented by their Burgeſſes in Parliament: and have procured ſurrenders to be made of them, by which the Magiſtrates in them have delivered up all their Rights and Priveledges, to be diſpoſed of at the pleaſure of thoſe Evill Councellours: who have thereupon, placed new Magiſtrates in thoſe Towns, ſuch as they can moſt entirely confide in: and in many of them they have put Popish Magiſtrates, notwithſtanding the Incapacities under which the Law has put them.

And whereas no Nation whatſoever can ſubſiſt without the adminiſtration of good and impartiall Juſtice, upon which mens Lives, Liberties, Honours and Eſtates, doe depend; thoſe Evill Councellours have ſubjected theſe to an Arbitrary and Deſpotick power: In the moſt important affairs they have ſtudied to diſcover before hand, the Opinions of the Judges; and have turned out ſuch, as they found would not conform themſelves to their intentions: and have put others in their places, of whom they were more aſſured, without having any regard to their abilities. And they have not ſtuck to raiſe even profeſſed Papiſts to the Courts of Judicature, notwithſtanding their Incapacity by Law, and that no regard is due to any Sentences flowing from them. They have carried this ſo far, as to deprive ſuch Judges, who in the common adminiſtration of Juſtice, shewed that they were governed by their Conſciences, and not by the directions which the others gave them. By which it is apparent that they deſigne to render themſelves the abſolute Maſters of the Lives, Honours and Eſtates of the ſubjects, of what rank or dignity ſoever they may be: and that without having any regard either to the equity of the cauſe, or to the conſciences of the Judges, whom they will have to ſubmit in all things to their own will and pleaſure: hoping by ſuch waies to intimidate thoſe who are yet in Imployment, as alſo ſuch others, as they ſhall think fit, to put in the Rooms of thoſe whom they have turned out; and to make them ſee, what they muſt look for, if they ſhould at any time act in the leaſt contrary to their good liking, and that no failings of that kind are pardoned in any perſons whatſoever. A great deale of blood has been ſhed in many places of the Kingdome, by Judges governed by thoſe Evill Councellours, againſt all the rules and forms of Law; without ſo much as ſuffering the perſons that were accuſed to plead in their own Defence.

They have alſo by putting the adminiſtration of juſtice in the hands of Papiſts, brought all the matters of Civill Juſtice into great uncertainties: with how much exactnes and Juſtice ſoever that theſe Sentences may have been given. For ſince the La-

Lawes of the Land doe not only exclude Papiſts from all places of Judicature, but have put them under an Incapacity, none are bound to acknowledge or to obey their Judgements, and all Sentences given by them, are null and void of themſelves: ſo that all perſons who have been caſt in trialls before ſuch Popish Judges, may juſtly look on their pretended Sentences, as having no more force then the Sentences of any private and unauthoriſed perſon whatſoever. So deplorable is the caſe of the Subjects, who are obliged to anſwer to ſuch Judges, that muſt in all things ſtick to the rules which are ſet them by thoſe Evill Councellours, who as the y raiſed them up to thoſe Imployments, ſo can turn them out of them at pleaſure, and who can never be eſteemed Lawfull Judges; ſo that all their Sentences are in the Conſtruction of the Law, of no force and efficacy. They have likewiſe diſpoſed of all Military Imployments, in the ſame manner: For tho the Lawes have not only excluded Papiſts from all ſuch Imployments, but have in particular provided that they ſhould be diſarmed; yet they in contempt of theſe Lawes, have not only armed the Papiſts, but have likewiſe raiſed them up to the greateſt Military Truſts, both by Sea and Land, and that Strangers as well as Natives, and Irish as well as English, that ſo by thoſe means having rendred themſelves Maſters both of the affairs of the Church, of the Government of the Nation, and of the courſe of Juſtice, and ſubjected them all to a Deſpotick and Arbitrary power, they might be in a capacity to maintain and execute their wicked deſigns by the aſſiſtance of the Army, and thereby to enſlave the Nation.

The diſmall effects of this ſubverſion of the eſtabliſhed Religion, Lawes and Liberties in England appear more evidently to us, by what wee ſee done in Ireland, Where the whole Government is put in the hands of Papiſts, and where all the Proteſtant Inhabitants are under the daily fears of what may be juſtly apprehended from the Arbitrary power which is ſet up there: which has made great numbers of them, leave that Kingdome and abandon their Eſtates in it, remembring well that cruell and bloody Maſſacre which fell out in that Iſland in the year 1641.

Thoſe Evill Councellours have alſo prevailed with the King to declare in Scotland that he is clothed with *Abſolute power*, and that all the ſubjects are bound *to obey him without Reſerve*: upon which he has aſſumed an arbitrary power, both over the Religion and Lawes of that Kingdome, from all which it is apparent, what is to be looked for in England, as ſoon as matters are duely prepared for it.

Thoſe great and inſufferable Oppreſſions, and the open Contempt of all Law, together with the apprehenſions of the ſad conſequences that muſt certainly follow upon it, have put the ſubjects under great and juſt fears; and have made them look after ſuch lawfull remedies as are allowed of in all Nations: yet all has been without effect. And thoſe Evill Councellours have endeavoured to make all men apprehend the loſſe of their Lives, Liberties, Honours and Eſtates, if they ſhould goe about to preſerve themſelves from this Oppreſſion, by Petitions, Repreſentations, or other means authoriſed by Law. Thus did they proceed with the Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*, and the other Biſhops, who having offered a moſt humble petition to the King, in termes full of Reſpect, and not exceding the number limited by Law, in which they ſet forth in ſhort the Reaſons for which they could not obey that order, which by the Inſtigation of thoſe Evill Councellours, was ſent them, requiring them to appoint their Clergy to read in their Churches the Declaration for *Liberty of Conſcience*; were ſent to priſon and afterwards brought to a Triall, as if they had been guilty of ſome enormous Crime. They were not

only obliged to defend themſelves in that purſute, but to appear before profeſſed Papiſts, who had not taken the Teſt and by conſequence were men whoſe intereſt led them to condemne them; and the Judges that gave their opinion in their favours were thereupon turned out.

And yet it can not be pretended that any Kings; how great ſoever their power has been, and how Arbitrary and Deſpotick ſoever they have been in the exerciſe of it, have ever reckoned it a crime for their Subjects to come in all ſubmiſſion and reſpect, and in a due number, not exceeding the limits of the Law, and repreſent to them the reaſons that made it impoſſible for them to obey their orders. Thoſe Evill Councellours have alſo treated a Peer of the Realme, as a criminall, only becauſe he ſaid that the ſubjects were not bound to obey the orders of a Popish Juſtice of Peace: tho it is evident, that they being by Law rendred incapable of all ſuch truſts, no regard is due to their orders. This being the ſecurity which the people have by the Law for their Lives, Liberties, Honours and Eſtates, that they are not to be ſubjected to the Arbitrary procedings of Papiſts, that are contrary to Law put into any Employments Civill or Military.

Both Wee our ſelves, and our Deareſt and moſt Entirely Beloved Conſort, the Princeſſe, have endeavoured to ſignify in termes full of reſpect to the King the juſt and deep Regret which all theſe Proceedings have given us; and in Compliance with his Majeſties deſires ſignified to us, Wee declared both by word of mouth, to his Envoy, and in writing what our Thoughts were touching the Repealing of the *Teſt and Penall Lawes*; which wee did in ſuch a manner, that Wee hoped Wee had propoſed an Expedient, by which the Peace of thoſe Kingdomes, and a happy aggreement among the Subjects of all Perſuaſions, might have been ſetled: but thoſe Evill Councellours have put ſuch ill Conſtructions on theſe our good Intentions, that they have endeavoured to alienate the King more and more from us: as if Wee had deſigned to diſturb the quiet and happines of the Kingdome.

The laſt and great Remedy for all thoſe Evills, is *the Calling of a Parliament*, for ſecuring the Nation againſt the evill practiſes of thoſe wicked Councellours: but this could not be yet compaſſed, nor can it be eaſily brought about. For thoſe men apprehending that a lawfull Parliament being once aſſembled, they would be brought to an account for all their open violations of Law, and for their Plots and Conſpiracies againſt the Proteſtant Religion, and the Lives and Libertics of the Subjects, they have endeavoured under the ſpecious Pretence of *Liberty of Conſtience*, firſt to ſow diviſions among Proteſtants, between thoſe of the Church of *England* and the Diſſenters: The deſigne being laid to engage Proteſtants, that are all equally concerned to preſerve themſelves from Popish Oppreſſion; into mutuall quarrellings; that ſo by theſe, ſome advantages might be given to them to bring about their Deſignes; and that both in the Election of the Members of Parliament, and afterwards in the Parliament it ſelfe. For they ſee well that if all Proteſtants, could enter into a mutuall Good Underſtanding one with another, and concurre together, in the Preſerving of their Religion, it would not be poſſible for them to compaſſe their wicked ends. They have alſo required all Perſons in the ſeverall Counties of England, that either were in any Imployment, or were in any conſiderable Eſteem, to declare before hand that they would concurre in the Repeal of the *Teſt and Penall Lawes*; and that they would give their voices in the Elections to Parliament, only for ſuch as would concurre in it. Such as would not thus preingage themſelves were turned out of all Imployments; and others who

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entred into thoſe engagements were put in their places, many of them being Papiſts: And contrary to the Charters and Priviledges of thoſe Burroughs, that have a right to ſend Burgeſſes to Parliament, they have ordered ſuch Regulations to be made, as they thought fit and neceſſary for aſſuring themſelves of all the Members, that are to be choſen by thoſe Corporations: and by this means they hope to avoid that Punishment which they have deſerved; tho it is apparent that all Acts made by Popish Magiſtrates are null and void of themſelves. So that no Parliament can be Lawfull, for which the Elections and Returns are made by Popish Sheriffs and Majors of Towns; and therefore as long as the Authority and Magiſtracy is in ſuch hands, it is not poſſible to have any Lawfull Parliament. And tho according to the Conſtitution of the English Government and Immemoriall Cuſtome, all Elections of Parliament men ought to be made with an entire Liberty, without any ſort of force, or the requiring the Electors to chooſe ſuch Perſons as ſhall be named to them, and the Perſons thus freely elected ought to give their Opinions freely upon all Matters, that are brought before them, having the good of the Nation ever before their eyes, and following in all things the dictates of their Conſcience, yet now the People of England can not expect a remedy from a free Parliament, Legally called and choſen, but they may perhaps ſee one called, in which all Elections will be carried by Fraud or Force, and which will be compoſed of ſuch Perſons, of whom thoſe Evill Councellours hold themſelves well aſſured, in which all things will be carried on according to their Direction and Intereſt, without any regard to the Good or Happines of the Nation. Which may appear evidently from this, that the ſame Perſons tried the Members of the laſt Parliament, to gain them to conſent to the Repeal of the *Teſt and Penal Lawes*, and procured that Parliament to be diſſolved, when they found that they could not, neither by promiſes nor threatnings, prevail with the Members to Comply with their wicked Deſigns.

But to crown all, there are great and violent Preſumptions, inducing us to beleeve, that thoſe Evill Councellours, in order to the carrying on of their ill deſignes, and to the gaining to themſelves the more time for the Effecting of them, for the encouraging of their Complices, and for the diſcouraging of all Good Subjects, have published that the *Queen* hath brought forth a *Son*: tho there have appeared both during the *Queens* pretended Bignes, and in the manner in which the Birth was managed, ſo many juſt and viſible grounds of ſuſpicion, that not only Wee our ſelves, but all the good Subjects of thoſe Kingdomes doe vehemently ſuſpect, that the pretended Prince of *Wales* was not born by the *Queen*. And it is notoriouſly known to all the world, that many both doubted of the Queens Bignes, and of the Birth of the Child, and yet there was not any one thing done to ſatisfy them, or to put an end to their Doubts.

And ſince our Deareſt and moſt Entirely Beloved Conſort, the Princeſſe, and likewiſe Wee our ſelves, have ſo great an Intereſt in this Matter, and ſuch a Right, as all the world knows, to the Succeſſion to the Crown; ſince alſo the English did in the year 1672. when the States Generall of the *United Provinces* were Invaded in a moſt injuſt warre, uſe their uttermoſt Endeavours to put an end to that Warre, and that in oppoſition to thoſe who were then in the Government: and by their ſo doing, they run the haſard of loſing both the favour of the Court, and their Imployments; And ſince the English Nation has ever teſtified a moſt particular Affection and Eſteem, both to our Deareſt Conſort the Princeſſe, and to Our ſelves, WEE cannot excuſe our ſelves from eſpouſing their Intereſts in a matter of ſuch high Conſequen-

ſequence, and from contributing all that lies in us for the maintaining both of the Proteſtant Religion, and of the Lawes and Liberties of thoſe Kingdomes, and for the Securing to them the continual Enjoyment of all their juſt Rights. To the doing of which Wee are moſt earneſtly ſolicited by a great many Lords, both Spirituall and Temporall, and by many Gentlemen and other ſubjects of all Ranks.

THEREFORE it is that Wee have thought fit, to goe over to England, and to carry over with us a force ſufficient by the bleſſing of God, to defend us from the violence of thoſe Evill Councellours. AND WEE being deſirous that our Intentions in this may be rightly underſtood, have for this end prepared this *Declaration*, in which as wee have hitherto given a true Account of the Reaſons inducing us to it; ſo Wee now think fit to DECLARE that this our Expedition is intended for no other Deſigne, but to have a free and lawfull Parliament aſſembled as ſoon as is poſſible: and that in order to this, all the late Charters by which the Elections of Burgeſſes are limited contrary to the ancient cuſtome, ſhall be conſidered as null and of no force: and likewiſe all Magiſtrates who have been Injuſtly turned out, ſhall forthwith reſume their former Imployments, as well as all the Borroughs of England ſhall return again to their ancient Preſcriptions and Charters: and more particularly that the ancient Charter of the Great and famous City of London, ſhall again be in Force; and that the Writts for the Members of Parliament ſhall be addreſſed to the Proper Officers, according to Law and Cuſtome. That alſo none be ſuffered to chooſe or to be choſen Members of Parliament but ſuch as are qualified by Law: And that the Members of Parliament being thus lawfully choſen they ſhall meet and ſit in Full Freedome; That ſo the Two Houſes may concurre in the preparing of ſuch Lawes, as they upon full and free debate, ſhall Judge neceſſary and convenient, both for the confirming and executing the Law concerning the *Teſt* and ſuch other *Lawes* as are neceſſary for the ſecurity and Maintenance of the Proteſtant Religion; as likewiſe for making ſuch Lawes as may eſtabliſh a good aggreement between the Church of England and all Proteſtant Diſſenters, as alſo for the covering and ſecuring of all ſuch, who will live peaceably under the Government as becomes good Subjects, from all Perſecution upon the account of their Religion, even *Papiſts* themſelves not excepted; and for the doing of all other things, which the Two Houſes of Parliament ſhall find neceſſary for the Peace, Honour and Safety of the Nation, ſo that there may be no more danger of the Nations falling at any time hereafter, under *Arbitrary Government*. To this Parliament wee will alſo referre the Enquiry into the birth of the pretended Prince of Wales, and of all things relating to it and to the Right of Succeſſion.

And Wee for our part will concurre in every thing, that may procure the Peace and Happines of the Nation, which a Free and Lawfull Parliament ſhall determine; ſince wee have nothing before our eyes in this our undertaking, but the Preſervation of the Proteſtant Religion, the Covering of all men from Perſecution for their Conſciences, and the ſecuring to the whole Nation the free enjoyment of all their Lawes, Rights and Liberties, under a Juſt and Legall Government.

This is the deſigne that wee have propoſed to our ſelves, in appearing upon this occaſion in Armes: in the Conduct of which, Wee will keep the Forces under our Command, under all the Strictnes of Martiall Diſcipline: and take a ſpeciall Care, that the People of the Countries thro which Wee muſt march, ſhall not ſuffer by their means: and as ſoon as the ſtate of the Nation will admit of it, Wee promiſe that Wee will ſend back all thoſe Forreigne Forces, that Wee have brought along with us.

Wee

Wee doe therefore hope that all People will judge rightly of us, and approve of these our Proceedings: But VVee chiefly rely on the blessing of God for the successe of this our undertaking, in which Wee place our whole and only Confidence.

Wee doe in the last place invite and require all Persons whatsoever, All the Peers of the Realme, both Spirituall and Temporall, all Lords Lieutenants, Deputy Lieutenants, and all Gentlemen, Citizens and other Commons of all ranks, to come and assist us, in order to the Executing of this our Designe; against all such as shall Endeavour to Oppose us: that so VVee may prevent all those Miseries, which must needs follow upon the Nations being kept under Arbitrary Government and Slavery: and that all the Violences and disorders, which have overturned the whole Constitution of the English Government, may be fully redressed in a FREE AND LEGALL PARLIAMENT.

And Wee doe likewise resolve, that as soon as the Nations are brought to a state of Quiet, Wee will take care that a Parliament shall be called in *Scotland*, for the restoring the Ancient Constitution of that Kingdome, and for bringing the Matters of Religion to such a Settlement, that the people may live easy and happy, and for putting an end to all the Injust Violences that have been in a course of so many years Committed there.

Wee will also study to bring the Kingdome of *Ireland* to such a state, that the Settlement there may be Religiously observed; and that the Protestant and British Interest there may be secured. And VVee will endeavour by all possible means, to procure such an establishment in all the three Kingdomes, that they may all live in a happy Union and Correspondence together; and that the Protestant Religion, and the Peace, Honour and Happines of those Nations may be established upon Lasting Foundations.

Given under our Hand and Seal, at our Court in the Hague, the Tenth day of October in the year 1688.

WILLIAM HENRY, PRINCE OF ORANGE.

By his Highnesses speciall command

C. HUYGENS.

His Highnesses Additionall Declaration.

AFter wee had prepared and printed this our Declaration, wee have understood, that the subverters of the Religion and Lawes of those Kingdomes, hearing of our Preparations, to assist the People against them, have begun to retract some of the Arbitrary and Despotick powers, that they had assumed, and to vacate some of their Injust Judgments and Decrees. The sense of their Guilt, and the distrust of their force, have induced them to offer to the City of London some seeming releese from their Great Oppressions: hoping thereby to quiet the People, and to divert them from demanding a Secure Reestablishment of their Religion and Lawes under the shelter of our Armes: They doe

also give out that wee Intend to Conquer and Enslave the Nation; And therefore it is that wee have thought fit to adde a few words to our Declaration.

Wee are Confident, that no persons can have such hard thought of us, as to Imagine that wee have any other Designe in this Undertaking, then to procure a setlement of the Religion and of the Liberties and Properties of the subjects upon so sure a foundation, that there may be no danger of the Nations relapsing into the like miseries at any time hereafter. And as the forces that wee have brought along with us, are utterly disproportioned to that wicked designe of Conquering the Nation, if wee were Capable of Intending it, so the Great Numbers of the Principall Nobility and Gentry, that are men of Eminent Quality and Estates, and persons of known Integrity and Zeal both for the Religion and Government of England, many of them being also distinguished by their Constant fidelity to the Crown, who doe both accompany us in this Expedition, and have earnestly solicited us to it, will cover us from all such Malicious Insinuations: For it is not to be imagined, that either those who have Invited us, or those that are already come to assist us, can joyne in a wicked attempt of Conquest, to make void their own lawfull Titles to their Honours, Estates and Intereſts: Wee are also Confident that all men see how litle weight there is to be laid, on all Promises and Engagments that can be now made: since there has been so litle regard had in time past, to the most solemne Promises. And as that Imperfect redresse that is now offered, is a plain Confession of those Violations of the Government that wee have set forth, So the Defectivenes of it is no lesse Apparent: for they lay downe nothing which they may not take up at Pleasure: and they reserve entire and not so much as mentioned, their claimes and pretences to an Arbitrary and Despotick power; which has been the root of all their Oppression, and of the totall subversion of the Government. And it is plain, that there can be no redresse nor Remedy offered but in Parliament: by a Declaration of the Rights of the Subjects that have been invaded: and not by any Pretended Acts of Grace, to which the extremity of their affairs has driven them. Therefore it is that wee have thought fit to declare, that wee will referre all to a Free Assembly of the Nation, in a Lawfull Parliament.

Given under our Hand and Seal, at our Court in the Hague, the 24. day of October in the year of our Lord 1688.

WILLIAM HENRY, PRINCE OF ORANGE.

By his Highnesses Speciall Command

C. HUYGENS.

THE

THE DECLARATION OF HIS HIGHNES WILLIAM HENRY,

By the Grace of God PRINCE OF ORANGE, &c.

Of the reasons inducing him, To Appear in Armes for Preserving of the Protestant Religion, and for Restoring the Lawes and Liberties of the ancient Kingdome of Scotland.

IT is both certain and evident to all men, that the publike Peace and Happines of any State or Kingdome, can not be preserved, where the Lawes, Liberties and Customes established by the lawfull authority in it, are openly transgressed and annulled: more especially where the alteration of *Religion* is endeavoured, and that a *Religion* which is contrary to Law is endeavoured to be introduced: upon which those who are most immediatly concerned in it, are indispensably bound to endeavour to preserve and maintain the established Lawes, Liberties and Customes: and above all the *Religion* and worship of God, that is established among them; and to take such an effectuall care, that the Inhabitants of the said State or Kingdome, may neither be deprived of their *Religion* nor of their Civill Rights. VVhich is so much the more necessary because the Greatnes and Security both of Kings Royall families, and of all such as are in Authority, as well as the happines of their Subjects and People, depend in a most especiall manner upon the exact observation and maintenance of these their Lawes, Liberties and Customes.

Upon these grounds it is, that Wee cannot any longer forbear to Declare that to our great regret Wee see that those Councellours, who have now the chiefe credit with the King, have overturned the *Religion*, Lawes and Liberties of those Realmes, and subjected them in all things relating to their Consciences, Liberties and Propertles, to Arbitrary Government: and that not only by secret and indirect waies, but in an open and undisguised manner.

And indeed the lamentable effects of an Arbitrary Power and of Evill Counsells are so Manifest in the deplorable State of the Kingdome of Scotland, that both

both our reaſon and conſcience doe prompt us to an abhorrence of them. For when wee conſider the ſad condition that Nation, though always affectionate to the Royall Family, and governed for many Ages by Laws made by the authority of their Kings, and of the Eſtates of Parliament, and by Common cuſtomes, is reduced to, by endeavours that have been uſed to change the conſtitution of the Monarchy regulate by Laws; into a Deſpotick or Arbitrary Power: which doth evidently appear not only by the actings of Evill Councellours in power, but by the deliberate and expreſſe publick Declarations, bearing that the King is an Abſolute Monarch, to whom obedience ought to be given in all things without reſerve, thereby to make way to introduce what Religion they pleaſe, without ſo much as the neceſſity of the conſent of the Nation by their Eſtates in Parliament. Whileſt wee conſider and ponder theſe things as wee cannot but be touched with a tender ſenſe of thoſe miſeries, ſo the giving ſuch a remedy to them as may be proper and may anſwer the expectation of all good men, and true Proteſtants, is the great thing which wee propoſe to our ſelves in this undertaking: the Equity where of will be juſtified to the world, if what hath been acted at the inſtigation of thoſe Evill Councellours be further impartially weighed.

It is well known, that the Laws, Priviledges and Rights of the Kingdome have been overturned to the great prejudice of King and people, whileſt thus all foundation of confidence and truſt is removed. And it is no leſs known what have been the Arbitrary procedures of an encroaching Privy Councell; for although by the Laws enacted by the authority of King and Parliament, it is expreſſly prohibited that the Popiſh Religion ſhould be profeſſed or Seminary Prieſts ſuffered within the Kingdom, or that the children of any Noblemen or Gentlemen ſhould be ſent abroad to be educated in Popiſh Colledges; yet have theſe Evill Councellours ordered or ſuffered young Noblemen to be taken from their relations, and to be ſent abroad to be inſtructed in Jeſuites Colledges, and have likewayes cauſed Schools to be erected under the conduct of Popiſh Prieſts, and that in the Capitall City of the Kingdom.

In an open contempt alſo of the known Laws of the Kingdom, Papiſts are put into places of Higheſt Truſt both Civil and Military, and entruſted with all the Forts and Magazins. The rights and Priviledges of the Royall Burrows, the Third Eſtate of Parliament, having as many Deputies in it as all the Shires in the Kingdom, are taken away, and they hindred in the free election of their Magiſtrats and Town-Councells, to the manifeſt violation of their Charters, eſtabliſhed by Law and Immemoriall poſſeſſion. And all this is done by meer Arbitrary power without any Citation, Triall or Sentence.

And whereas no Nation whatſoever can ſubſiſt without the adminiſtration of good and impartiall Juſtice, upon which mens Lives and Liberties their Honours and Eſtates depend, yet thoſe Evill Councellours have ſubjected theſe to an Arbitrary and Deſpotick power; having turned out Judges, who by Law ought to continue during their Life or their good behaviour, becaſe they would not conform themſelves to their Intentions, and put others in their Places, who they believe would bemore complyant, and that without any regard to their abilities: by which it evidently appears that thoſe Evill Councellours deſign to render themſelves the Abſolute Maſters of the Lives, Honours and Eſtates of the ſubjects, without being reſtrained by any rule or Law.

By the influence of the ſame Evill Counſellours hath a moſt exorbitant power been exerciſed in impoſing Bonds and Oaths upon whole Shires without any Law or Act of Parliament: in permitting Free quarters to the ſouldiers, although they had a ſufficient Eſtablisment for their pay, whereby the Kingdom was doubly burdened without any redres; in impriſoning Gentlemen without any, ſo much as alledged, Reaſon, for ceing many to accuſe and witneſs againſt themſelves; impoſing arbitrary fines; frighting and haraſſing many parts of the Countrey with Intercommoning and Juſtice-Aires, making ſome incurre forfeiture of life & fortune for the moſt generall and harmleſs converſe even with their neareſt relations outlawed. And thus bringing a conſternation upon a great part of the Kingdom, which when Outlawries and Intercommonings went out againſt multitudes upon the ſlendereſt pretexts, was involved ſo univerſally in that danger, that thoſe Councellours themſelves were ſo obnoxious as to find it neceſſary to have Pardons and Indemnities, whileſt the poor people were left to mercy, impowering Officers and Souldiers to Act upon the ſubjects living in quiet and full peace, the greateſt Barbarities, in deſtroying them by hanging, ſhooting and drouwning them without any forme of Law, or reſpect to Age or Sexe, not giving ſome of them time to pray to God for mercy: And this for no other reaſon but becauſe they would not anſwer or ſatisfy them in ſuch queſtions as they propoſed to them without any warrant of Law, and againſt the Common Intereſt of Mankind, which frees all men from being obliged to diſcover their ſecret thoughts; Beſides a great many other Violences and Oppreſſions, to which that poor Nation hath been expoſed without any hope of having an end put to them, or to have Relief from them.

And that the Arbitrary and Illegall proceedings of thoſe Evill Councellours might be juſtified and ſupported, ſuch a Declaration hath been procured by them, as ſtrikes at the root of the Government, and overturns the moſt ſacred Rights of it, in making all Parliaments unneceſſary, and taking away all defences of Religion, Liberty and Property, by an aſſumed and aſſerted Abſolute Power, to which Obedience is required without Reſerve: which every good Chriſtian is perſwaded to be due to God Almighty alone, all whoſe Commandements are always Juſt and Good.

Theſe Evill Councellours have uſed their ut moſt endeavours to abolish Penall Laws excluding all who are not Proteſtants from publick Truſt, which give too great a check to their deſignes. For the accomplishing of this a Liberty hath been granted to Diſſenters, but ſuch as one, as that the continuance thereof is plainly inſinuated to depend upon their hearty concurrence for Abolishing the abovementioned Penall Laws, the only legall defence of their Religion; Although the Diſſenters have juſt cauſe of diſtruſt when they call to mind how ſome hundreds of their Miniſters were driven out of their Churches without either accuſation or citation: the filling of many of whoſe places with Ignorant and Scandalous perſons hath been one great occaſion of all thoſe Miſeries which that Countrey for a long time hath Groaned under. And Diſſenters have but ſmall ground to reſt on any preſent eaſe founded upon a Proclamation which may be recalled every hour, and which in the firſt and ſecond Edicions of it gave no relief to them, eſpecially conſidering that not many monts before, the greateſt of the forementioned ſeverities and barbarities had been exerciſed upon them.

But to crown all, there are great and violent Preſumptions, inducing us to be-

leeve, that those Evill Councellours, in order to the carrying on of their ill designes, and to the gaining to themselves the more time for the Effecting of them, for the encouraging of their Complices, and for the discouraging of all Good Subjects, have published that the *Queen* hath brought forth a *Son*; tho there have appeared both during the *Queens* pretended Bignes, and in the manner in which the Birth was managed, so many just and visible grounds of suspicion, that not only Wee our selves, but all the good Subjects of those Kingdomes doe vehemently suspect, that the pretended Prince of *Wales* was not born by the *Queen*. And it is notoriously known to all the world, that many both doubted of the Queens Bignes, and of the Birth of the Child, and yet there was not any one thing done to satisfy them, or to put an end to their Doubts.

And since our Dearest and most Entirely Beloved Consort, the Princesse, and likewise Wee our selves, have so great an Interest in this Matter, and such a Right, as all the world knows, to the succession of these Kingdomes, which those Men have attempted to violate, for preventing of all redress of miseries, by the lawfull Successors of the Crown, educated by the good providence of God, in the true Profession of the Protestant Religion, Wee cannot excuse our selves from espousing the true interest of these Nations in matters of such high Consequence, and from contributing all that lies in us, for the defence of the Laws and Liberties thereof, the maintaining of the Protestant Religion in them, and the securing of the People in the enjoyment of all their just Rights.

But that our Intentions may be so manifest that no person may doubt or pretend to doubt thereof, to excuse themselves from concurringh with us in this just Design for the Universall good of the Nation. Wee do Declare that the freeing that Kingdom from all hazard of Popery and Arbitrary power for the future, and the delivering it from what at the present doth expose it to both, the setling of it by Parliament upon such a solid Basis as to its Religious and Civill concerns as may most effectually redress all the abovementioned Grievances, are the true reasons of our present undertaking as to that Nation,

And therefore Wee persuade our selves that our Endeavours to give the best assistance wee can for the Relief of so distressed a Kingdome, shall not only not be misconstrued, but shall also be accompanied with a chearfull and universall Concurrence of the whole Nation, that even those who have been Instruments for the enslaving of it, will now show their Dislike of what they have done, by their timeous and reasonable Diligence for its Rescue; and that if any shall not give us that Assistance which their Conscience to God, and their Respect to their Countrey oblige them to, they shall be justly charged with all the Evills that may be the effects of such a want of their duty.

And as wee our selves desire to trust to the Almighty God alone for the success of our Arms, so wee expect of all good men, that they will apply themselves most earnestly to Him for his Blessing upon our Endeavours, that so they may tend to the Glory of his Great Name, to the Establishment of the Reformed Churches, and to the Peace and Happiness of that Kingdome.

Given under our hand and Seal at our Court in the Hague, the tenth of October in the Year of our Lord 1688.

WILLIAM HENRY, PRINCE OF ORANGE.

By his Highnesses Speciall command

C: HUYGENS.

To

To all Commanders of Ships and all Seamen that are now imployed in the English Fleet.

GENTLEMEN AND FRIENDS,

OUr Right Trusty and Well beloved Admirall Herbert is fully Instructed by Us: And therefore Wee expect that you will give an Entire credit, to every thing that he shall say to you in our Name: Wee have prepared a Declaration, containing the Reasons that induce Us to undertake the Present Expedition, in which Wee have no other designe but the preservation of the Protestant Religion, and the restoring of the Lawes and Liberties of England. The totall ruine of your Religion being as much designed by the Papists in England, as it is already accomplished in France; and it will as certainly be effected, if they are able to prevail at this time.

Wee can not beleeve, but that you must be already sensible, that you are only made use of as Instruments, to bring both your selves and your Countrey under Popery and Slavery, by the means both of the Irish and the Forreigners who are preparing to compleat your Destruction. And therefore Wee hope that God will put it in your hearts at this time, to Redeem your selves, your Countrey and your Religion from all those Miseries.

This in all humane appearance can onely be done, by your coming now to assist Us, who are labouring for your Deliverance. And Wee doe assure you that Wee will be ever mindfull of the services that youw shall now doe Us: And Wee promise to you that Wee will place particular marks of our Favour on all those who will upon this Occasion deserve well of Us and of the Nation, Wee are with all sincerity Your truely wel wishing and affectionate Friend

Given at Our Court at Dieren the 29. day of Septembre 1688.

WILLIAM H: PRINCE OF ORANGE.

By his Highnesses speciall command

C: HUYGENS.

To

To all the Officers and Souldiers in the English Army.

GENTLEMEN AND FRIENDS.

WEe have given ſo true and ſo full an account of our Intentions in this Expedition, in our Declaration, that as Wee can adde nothing to it, ſo Wee are ſure that you can deſire nothing more of Us. Wee come to preſerve your Religion, and to reſtore and eſtablish your Liberties and Properties: and therefore Wee can not ſuffer our ſelves to doubt, but that all Proteſtants and true Englishmen will come and concurre with us in our deſignes to ſecure theſe Nations from Popery and Slavery. You muſt all ſee plainly, that you are made uſe of only as Inſtruments, to enſlave the Nation and to ruine the Proteſtant Religion: and when that is done you may judge what you your ſelves ought to expect, both by the casheering of all the Proteſtant and English Officers and Souldiers in Ireland, and by the Irish Souldiers that are brought over to be put in your places, of which you have ſeen ſo fresh an Inſtance, that wee need not put you in mind of it. You know how many of your Fellow Officers have been uſed, only for their Standing firm to the Proteſtant Religion and to the Lawes of England: and you can not flatter your ſelves ſo farre, as to expect to be better uſed, if thoſe who have broke their word ſo oft, ſhould by your means be brought out of the ſtraits, to which they are reduced at preſent.

VVee hope likewiſe, that you will not ſuffer your ſelves to be abuſed by a falſe notion of Honour: but that you will in the firſt place conſider what you owe to Almighty God and your Religion, to your Countrey, to your ſelves and to your Poſterity: which you as men of Honour ought to preferre to all Private Conſiderations and Engagemens whatſoever. VVee doe therefore expect, that you will conſider the Honour that is now ſet before you, of being the Inſtruments of ſaving your Countrey and of ſecuring your Religion. VVee will ever remember the ſervices that you ſhall doe upon this occaſion: and VVee promiſe to you, that VVee will place ſuch particular marks of our Favour on every one of you, as your behaviour at this time ſhall deſerve of us, and of the Nation, in which VVee will make a great diſtinction of thoſe, that ſhall come ſeaſonably to join their Armes with Ours. And you ſhall ever find us to be Your VVell VVishing and aſſured Friend

WILLIAM HENRY, PRINCE OF ORANGE.

By his Highneſſes ſpeciall command

C: HUYGENS.

A Praier

A Praier for the preſent Expedition.

ALmighty God, the Lord of Hoſts, and the aid and refuge of all that truſt in thee, Wee humbly pray thee, to bleſſe and proſper this Undertaking, for the glory of thy Name, and for the good of thy People: Let not our ſins provoke thee, to deny thy bleſſing to thy Servant the PRINCE, compaſſe him with thy favour as with a ſhield: Direct him in all his Councels, and be thou ever preſent with him and aſſiſting to him in all his Actions: that ſo he may be Succeſſefull in this great Deſigne: and that he may Imploy all the power, that thou puts in his hands, to the honour of thy Great Name, to the eſtabliſhing and advancing of thy true Religion, and to the Procuring of the peace and Happines of theſe Nations: Bleſſe both the Army and Fleet under his Command, with Succeſſe and Victory. And grant ô Gracious God that all of us, may be turning to thee, with our whole hearts; Repenting us truely of all our paſt ſins, and ſolemnly vowing to thee, as wee now doe, that wee will in all time coming, amend our lives, and endeavour to carry our ſelves as becomes Reformed Chriſtians. And that wee will show our Zeal for our holy Religion by living in all things ſuteably to it. Hear us Holy Father, and ſet thy Angels to encamp round about us, for wee put our whole truſt in thy Protection and Defence, which wee humbly pray thee to grant us, for the ſake of Jeſus Chriſt our only Saviour and Redeemer.

Amen.